

MEMORIAL

OF

EDWIN GREEN, AND OTHERS,

PRAYING

*The establishment of an agricultural and mechanical department of  
the Government.*

MAY 3, 1838.

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and ordered to be printed.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United  
States in Congress assembled :*

The memorial of the undersigned, citizens of the United States,

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

That the prosperity of the country would be greatly promoted by the establishment of a new department in our Government, to be styled the Agricultural and Mechanical Department. The head of which to have a seat in the cabinet, with assistants, to carry out the objects of the establishment; power to forward to each literary institution, and to each teacher in the Union, blank reports, to be filled by each teacher; assisted by a committee of farmers, mechanics, professional men, artists, architects, merchants, &c., as the case may be, describing the soil, minerals, natural products, crops, buildings, agricultural and mechanical implements, of his school district; saying what raw materials may be brought into use advantageously to the proprietors and to the country; what new crops may be introduced beneficially and why; what rotation of crops; what agricultural and mechanical implements; what improvement in the construction of the buildings; what manufactories; the state of education; what discoveries in natural history, have been made in his school district. Premiums to be given by the department for valuable discoveries. The microscope, thermometer, barometer, and rain gauge, to be used in the schools to aid in the study of natural history; to ascertain the habits and changes of insects that are destructive to our crops, fruits, vegetables, flowers, plants, shrubs, fruit, ornamental, forest trees, and animals, together with the changes of the weather, records of which to be kept not only with a view to observe its effects on vegetation, but to guard against its changes.

To have all newly invented implements and others of merit tested by the engineer department, with a committee of farmers and mechanics, and reported on. Seeds and plants of value, for distribution, together with information collected by our foreign ministers, consuls, naval and army

officers, merchants, artists, architects, seamen, &c., and sent to the department to be reported on, in a condensed form, and sent to each teacher for the purpose of imparting information to his pupils, and to the citizens of his district; thus directing the active ardent minds of the youth of the United States to investigations in natural history and the mechanic arts. By adopting this course we shall have a professor of agriculture and the mechanic arts in every teacher in the Union; the establishment of which in the colleges of Europe have been considered highly beneficial.

"Inquiries cannot be too extensively nor too minutely carried on. What occurs to one may be neglected by another, however able and intelligent. It is the combined information collected by general and minute inquiries, that can alone produce facts, on great questions, fit to be relied on."

Edwin Green  
Robert G. Aiselin  
John Page  
Daniel Brent, M. D.  
Richard N. Snowden  
E. B. Robinson  
Jno. Parriott  
Mich'l. Stonestreet  
Wm. B. Scott  
Jno. H. Sothoron  
John C. Jenifer  
William Clagett  
G. W. Bowie  
Jos. L. Smith  
E. Tolson  
Th. L. Thurston  
Richard Johnson  
David Lyles  
Geo. Savage  
G. Humphreys  
T. P. Pendleton  
D. P. Noland  
Josiah Boswerth  
James Fossett  
Benjamin A. Thorn  
C. J. M. Eversfield  
T. N. Davis  
James Mitchell  
John F. Webb  
Geo. Kephart  
J. R. Thompson  
Owen Kelly  
E. Franzoni  
R. M. Harrison  
E. Simms  
N. Archer  
Wm. Fischer  
Samuel Mitchell

Geo. Johnson  
Samuel Raub, jr.  
Arthur S. Lee  
G. T. Morgan  
A. Addison  
Peter Cazanove  
Robert Mason  
C. B. Hamilton  
E. Simms  
D. K. Cahoon  
George Shofer  
John Queen  
B. P. Smith  
Henry Hammond  
John Brannan  
Geo. L. Le Row  
C. T. Jardella  
William Platt  
Michael Hill  
Geo. Sweeny  
W. B. C. Worthington  
H. R. Dulany  
Daniel Searle  
Wm. A. Williams  
Samuel D. Vaughan  
Felix Richards  
R. Crowley  
C. D. Kelly  
John Carroll Brent  
Robert D. Sewall  
H. Naylor  
Charles McNarun  
J. P. VanTyne  
J. Harris  
P. J. Steer  
G. W. Phillips  
Wm. Sexsmith